

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.
Please cancel claims 1-62. Please add claims 63-66.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-62 are canceled.

63. (New) A β -lactamase enzyme fragment for use in a fragment
complementation system comprising an N-terminal β -lactamase fragment,
wherein said N-terminal β -lactamase fragment consists of amino acids 1 to 188 up
to amino acid 207 of SEQ ID NO: 2;
wherein said N-terminal β -lactamase fragment is able to functionally reconstitute
with a C-terminal β -lactamase enzyme fragment consisting of amino acids 263 to 208 up to
amino acid 189 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and
wherein said N-terminal β -lactamase fragment is altered from SEQ ID NO: 2 by
at least one amino acid substitution selected from the group consisting of:
(a) a lysine to glutamic acid substitution at position 55,
(b) a proline to serine substitution at position 62, and
(c) a methionine to threonine substitution at position 182.

64. (New) The β -lactamase enzyme fragment of claim 63, wherein said N-
terminal β -lactamase fragment consists of amino acids 1 to 195 up to amino acid 202 of SEQ ID
NO: 2.

65. (New) The β -lactamase enzyme fragment of claim 63, wherein said N-
terminal β -lactamase fragment consists of amino acids 1 to 197 of SEQ ID NO: 2 and said C-
terminal β -lactamase fragment consists of amino acids 263 to 198 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

66. (New) The β -lactamase enzyme fragment of claim 63, wherein said N-
terminal β -lactamase fragment consists of amino acids 1 to 197 of SEQ ID NO: 2, said C-
terminal β -lactamase fragment consists of amino acids 263 to 198 of SEQ ID NO: 2, and said N-
terminal β -lactamase fragment comprises the amino acid substitution (c).